

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A railcar comprising:
  - a plurality of truck assemblies, each truck assembly having at least one wheel;
  - an underbody supported on said truck assemblies,
  - 5 said underbody including a cold formed center sill extending substantially the length of said railcar; and
  - a railcar body attached to said underbody.
2. The railcar according to claim 1 wherein said center sill includes two cold formed sections and no more than one weld seam connecting said two cold formed sections.
3. The railcar according to claim 1 wherein said center sill includes a generally hollow rectangular configuration with an open bottom.
4. The railcar according to claim 3 wherein said center sill has a substantially uniform thickness of between about 3/8 inch to about 5/8 inch.
5. The railcar according to claim 3 wherein said center sill weighs less than 80 pounds per foot.
6. The railcar according to claim 1 wherein said center sill is formed of a single cold formed section without weld seams.
7. A gondola railcar comprising:
  - a pair of spaced truck assemblies, each truck assembly having four wheels; and

an underbody supported on said truck assemblies,  
5 said underframe including a cold formed center sill, said  
center sill comprising no more than two cold formed  
sections, and no more than one weld seam connecting said  
cold formed sections.

8. The gondola railcar of claim 7 wherein said  
center sill is formed of a single cold formed section  
without weld seams.

9. The gondola railcar of claim 8 wherein said  
center sill includes a generally hollow rectangular  
configuration with an open bottom.

10. The gondola railcar of claim 9 further  
including at least one tub extending below said center sill  
between said pair of truck assemblies.

11. The gondola railcar of claim 10 wherein said  
center sill has a substantially uniform thickness of  
between about 3/8 inch to about 5/8 inch.

12. The gondola railcar of claim 11 wherein said  
center sill weighs less than 80 pounds per foot.

13. The gondola railcar of claim 7 wherein said  
center sill has at least four work hardened corners.

14. The gondola railcar of claim 13 wherein said  
center sill includes a pair of bottom wall portions, each  
said bottom wall portion extending inwardly from one side  
edge thereof.

15. The gondola railcar of claim 14 wherein said center sill is formed of a single cold formed section without weld seams.

16. The gondola railcar of claim 15 further including at least one tub extending below said center sill between said pair of truck assemblies.

17. The gondola railcar of claim 16 wherein said center sill includes a generally hollow rectangular configuration with an open bottom.

18. The gondola railcar of claim 7 wherein said center sill includes two cold formed sections and no more than one weld seam connecting said two cold formed sections.

19. The gondola railcar of claim 18 wherein said center sill has at least four work hardened corners.

20. The gondola railcar of claim 19 further including at least one tub extending below said center sill between said pair of truck assemblies.